

The Patron of Husbandry



Official Journal of the State Granges of Arkansas, Florida and Mississippi.

Volume 5.

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, NOVEMBER 29, 1879.

Number 44.

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W. H. WORTHINGTON, Editor.

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THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

It affords us great pleasure to announce the newly elected officers of the National Grange. We take the following from the report of the fourth day's proceedings of that body:

CANANDAIGUA, N. Y., Nov. 22, 1879.

The special order was the election of officers, which, being by ballot, each one of thirteen officers and two members of the Executive Committee being voted for separately, and some of them requiring several ballots, consumed the time until the close of the afternoon session, and resulted in the election of the following persons for the constitutional term of two years:

Master—J. J. Woodman, of Michigan.
Overseer—Put. Darden, of Mississippi.
Lecturer—Henry Eshbaugh, of Missouri.
Steward—A. J. Vaughan, of Tennessee.
Assistant Steward—Williams Sims, of Kansas.
Chaplain—S. H. Ellis, of Ohio.
Gate Keeper—O. Dinwiddie, of Indiana.
Ceres—Mrs. H. H. Woodman, of Michigan.
Pomona—Mrs. M. L. Darden, of Mississippi.
Flora—Mrs. E. M. Nicholson, of New Jersey.
L. A. S.—Mrs. William Sims, of Kansas.
Executive Committee—William G. Wayne, of New York; D. Wyatt Aiken, of South Carolina.

These officers are all working members. Worthy Master Woodman has long been prominent in the Order, and is one of the ablest and most active leaders in the North.

The election of Worthy Master Darden to the second position will be especially gratifying to the Patrons of Mississippi and of the entire South. It was a just and fitting compliment to one of our ablest leaders, whose splendid services in the cause had endeared him to the farmers of his State and marked him as one of the foremost men in the Order. The Patrons of Mississippi, who will appreciate the honor conferred upon their faithful and fearless representative, will now gather around him with an enthusiasm that will give greater weight and success to his labors in the good cause.

The Lecturer, Worthy Master Eshbaugh, is an admirable selection. As Master of the Missouri State Grange he proved himself a worthy successor to the lamented Allen.

In the office of Steward, Mississippi can claim to be represented, for General Vaughan was the first Master of our State Grange. His re-election was a handsome compliment to his efficiency as an officer and his zeal in the cause. He has an excellent assistant in Worthy Master Sims, of Kansas.

The National Grange could not be in better hands. Its affairs will be ably and faithfully administered during the next two years.

MISSISSIPPI STATE GRANGE.

There should be a full meeting of the State Grange at Forest on the 9th. Every delegate should make it his special business to attend. There was never a more propitious time for effective Grange work than now. The Order in this State is on firmer ground than ever before, and the work before it is of a more practical character. The Subordinate Granges are ripe for an onward movement, and if the State Grange proves itself equal to the occasion—takes an advanced position and adopts practical, progressive measures—the masses will rally to the support of such measures with an enthusiasm unknown in the history of the Order.

Great co-operative enterprises can now be inaugurated and pushed forward to success. Co-operative stores are no longer a mere experiment; they are in successful operation in scores of places throughout the State. They will now rapidly increase in number, and before another twelve-month passes by every Subordinate Grange in the State should, and probably will, have its co-operative store. The next step will be to establish "new process" cotton factories. The State Grange can take action on these great questions that will

give them the prominence their importance deserves.

We look for important results to follow this meeting of the State Grange. Worthy Master Darden, with the splendid recognition of his ability and zeal by the National Grange, will be prepared to make suggestions that will rouse the members to an enthusiasm that will be felt in every Subordinate Grange in the State. Let every delegate go prepared to sustain, to give form and force to the patriotic efforts of the gallant leader who has worked so long and so faithfully in the cause.

The good work of the National Grange should now be followed by good work by the State Granges.

IT IS WRONG.

Bro. T. J. Carver, the active and efficient General Manager of the Southwestern Co-operative Association at New Orleans, in his weekly report published in our last issue, complained that many members of the Order send to him for price lists and use them to get bargains from the merchants. This is all wrong; it is a suicidal policy. These Co-operative Associations have been established by members of the Order under the system recommended by the National Grange, and were designed for the benefit of farmers—to enable them to escape the oppressive exactions of the merchants. If these Associations were destroyed, as the merchants most earnestly desire, it would be a great misfortune to the farmers. And this must be the inevitable result, if the members of the Order use these Associations merely to drive bargains with the merchants. Some farmers delude themselves with the belief that they can sell their cotton to and purchase their supplies from the merchants on more favorable terms than with their Co-operative Associations. Some even think that they can beat faro dealers at their game, but it takes only a few trials to open their eyes to their mistake. Their chances with the merchants are not much better than with the faro dealers.

Farmers and Patrons should remember that in transacting their business with the Southwestern Co-operative Association, it is managed honestly and to promote their interests, and that they will receive at the end of the quarter their share of the profits of the business; and what is of still greater importance, they will get pure, unadulterated articles.

We advise farmers, Patrons and Granges to take stock in the Southwestern Co-operative Association, and concentrate their business on it. It has been tried by hundreds of Patrons in the Southwest, and given complete satisfaction.

The co-operative system is the true system. Give it your confidence and support.

We can never secure independence until the day arrives when there will be a cotton factory in every neighborhood, to manufacture the raw material into cloth before it is baled. The cotton is grown in the southern states, shipped a thousand miles north or three thousand miles across the ocean, converted into cloth and then shipped back past the southern ports from which it came to East India, South America, and even to our own people. This is obviously an unnatural state of things. All that is needed to change it is a national commercial system and an intelligent spirit of enterprise in the southern states. If the southern people have the wisdom to pursue the right policy in this matter the day is not distant when they will have the satisfaction of seeing British cotton machinery and the machinery of all the eastern, northern and western states, and all the skilled labor required to operate them, transferred to the towns, cities, and even the cotton fields of the south. This would inaugurate a new industry in the south, and an increase of population and wealth such as the south has never known. But our people must do something more than boast and prate about their advantages and the future prosperity that awaits them. The cry of a want of capital is a poor excuse, for more money is sent from each neighborhood annually to purchase the manufactured cotton goods, to buy wagons, farming implements, flour, hay, corn, mules, and bacon, than would be necessary for a more enterprising people to start and run manufacturing establishments. The south is capable of becoming the most

prosperous country on the civilized globe, but our people content themselves by simply congratulating themselves on what they could do if they were an enterprising instead of a thiftless, lazy people.

THE POWER OF ORGANIZATION.

Why do farmers and their families come together in the Grange? Do they spend time and money thus, simply that they may have this opportunity to meet their neighbors, inquire after their health, and pass away the time? The Declaration of Purposes says, "to develop a higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves." But what is to be done after getting into the Grange to attain to this higher manhood and womanhood? Is it not a marvel that farmers who make the glory and greatness of the land, who constitute the mainstay of national strength and prosperity, should allow themselves to be set aside and through their own indifference dwarfed into insignificance by those whose interests are as much dependent on them, as the infant in its mother's arms?

A portion of the farmers in the country recognizing the fact that like other classes they should be organized, have associated themselves together in the Grange and many seem to feel that their work is accomplished as soon as they are inside of the gates, and that as soon as a Grange has acquired members, the end is secured. But it is just at this point that the work which called them together begins—the work of elevating and educating the farming community. These farmer's meetings are called organizations, but where are the works that prove them such?

Organization means, bringing together all the parts so that they may be used as a whole. If the leading minds of a Grange can control and direct the combined efforts and energies of its members to the accomplishment of any financial or educational purpose, progress and the fruits of organization may certainly be expected. There is a large moral and intellectual force in every Grange that should be disciplined and made use of for the advancement and elevation of its members. Let a Grange determine what its needs are and then bring its whole power to bear on these points one after another, until the desired end is accomplished.

If the Patrons' Mutual Aid Society is thought to be a worthy feature, let it be a worthy feature, let it be investigated and discussed, and if found fully deserving of encouragement and support, every officer and every leading member of the Grange should feel themselves called upon to see that every faculty of the Grange is brought out and made to be of service in procuring the success of this institution, and when this is accomplished it will be found that the success already achieved strengthens them for other work.

When a Grange engaged in the prosecution of educational purposes, finds itself in need of a library they will find they are amply able to have one if the Grange is so organized that it will do it. The first practical effort in any such undertaking is the important step that gives hope and makes way for those who are undecided and doubting. If no beginning be made no end will be reached, and no success will ever be attained. How many are creeping along through the world who might have prospered themselves and been useful to others if they had acted well their part instead of putting by from day to day their resolutions of industry and reform. The hope of every Grange is the intelligence, unity and perseverance of its members; it cannot afford to take ignorant, selfish and indifferent members unless there is good reason for believing they can be educated to better things.

When a Grange has made sufficient progress it will see that enthusiasm is its first and greatest need and that this cannot be kept at a good working pitch unless the members are thoughtful of its interests, and they will not and cannot be thoughtful of the Grange unless they read of it. When this fact is fully realized they will make use of the power of their organization to devise means and make sure, in some way, that every member has a good Grange paper. In no other way can members be educated so cheaply; and in no other way can the enthusiasm upon which the life of the Grange depends, be so surely maintained.—*Dirigo Rural.*

The true Patron has no fears of the ultimate success of the Grange. This does not trouble him though his own and neighboring Granges drag on a tedious, unprofitable existence. He has an abiding faith in the future. But he wants to see a grand success. He is not satisfied with what may be, but earnestly looks to the accomplishment of what he knows are within the possibilities of the Order.—*Grange Bulletin.*

FROM ALABAMA.

CLARKE COUNTY.

Editor Patron: I am rejoiced to see you so determined to stand by the laboring class and so faithfully contend for their rights. While we wage no war, we must fight when the oppressor wages war against us. I have been taking and reading THE PATRON for several years, and have always found it contending for the welfare of the masses, and I am sorry to see some farmers and even Granges trying to throw stumbling blocks in its way. But I am glad to know that these stones only makes its true friends redouble their efforts to increase its circulation.

Be not discouraged, my brother, be not discouraged, readers of THE PATRON, at such little long-metred songs as have of late appeared in the Jackson Clarion from New Harmony Grange, 163, Miss. for it has been condemned by a large majority of the Grangers and farmers who read THE PATRON. It has proven to be a fruitless, little trick. The words do not suit the meter; the tenor has no office-sound; the treble sounds like an office-seeker; the bass and chorus are horrible; for they are the basest and coarsest I ever heard. I hope the counter is better than the other parts, and will soon come forth and countermand the whole thing. Brother Patrons and members of New Harmony Grange, as one who feels a deep interest in the welfare of the Order and can from his heart bid God-speed, I ask you to think calmly and seriously upon the article you sent out to be seen and read by thousands of both friends and enemies of the Order. It is impossible to keep down differences of opinion; but as Grangers and brethren we should make them as few as possible, and when they do arise, we should discuss them in a manly, brotherly manner; convince and be convinced of error, and all try to see aright.

I cannot forbear saying that I think New Harmony Grange owes the Editor and friends of THE PATRON an apology for the scurrilous language used in the article referred to above.

Fraternally, J. M. NELSON.

Rural, Nov. 23.

From the Irish World, New York.

THE GREENBACK.

NATIONAL BANKS—Analysis of Comptroller Knox's Report—Startling Revelations.

Thirteen hundred millions of dollars (\$1,300,000,000) taxes in 15 years on the wages of Labor and the products of Labor to support that Republican-party incubus known as the National Banking System, is the surprising revelation which awaits us in Comptroller Knox's Report. Thirteen hundred millions of gross receipts in 15 years on an average capital stock of less than four hundred millions! Capital doubles itself in 164 years at 6 per cent simple interest; but behold, the National Banking Capital earns 325 per cent in only 15 years! Nevertheless, Comptroller Knox, at the bidding of Sherman, Shylock, Grant & Co., alias the Republican party, labors assiduously in his Report to prove that National Banking is a business no shrewd man will touch who hopes to reap any more than a minimum profit on his investment.

I have shown in a previous paper that the National Banks derived their gross receipts from three main sources, namely, from Interest on Government bonds deposited by them at Washington in exchange for currency and other purposes; from Interest on loans of bank capital, and from Interest on loans of bank deposits. All Interest, all USURY, in some shape or form, for the use of what ought to be free and open to every one without charge. The Interest received by the banks on their bonds averaged \$24,000,000 a year, or \$360,000,000 for the 15 years ending October, '78. Now, it must be borne steadily in mind that these \$360,000,000 were paid by a tax on the wages of Labor and the profits of Industry; that that tax would have been all spared to the laborer, merchant, mechanic, etc., had greenbacks been issued in lieu of the bonds and bank currency, and that the National debt would not thereby have been augmented a single penny. As it is, all classes, from the maid servant to the merchant and manufacturer, have, year after year, been paying tribute out of their earnings to the extent of \$360,000,000, merely to support a political machine which the Republican party are using with terrible effect in their efforts to kindle sectional strife between the North and South, that their lease of despotism and corruption may be indefinitely prolonged.

Deducting the \$300,000,000 received by the banks for interest on their bonds from their \$1,300,000,000 of gross receipts, we have \$940,000,000 as the tax levied in 15 years on the workman and the products of labor for the use of bank capital and

bank deposits. From '63 to '78 the combined bank capital and deposits averaged in round numbers \$940,000,000, \$400,000,000 being the average bank capital, and \$540,000,000 the average bank deposits. As the gross receipts of interest in 15 years, on capital and deposits equaled the sum of these two, it follows that the banks received for the use of their capital by the public \$100,000,000, and for the use of their deposits \$540,000,000, in 15 years; or, in other words, the banks, by means of USURY, doubled the sum of their average capital and deposits within a period one-half less than it takes to double capital at 6 per cent simple interest.

We thus perceive that, besides these earnings derived from Government bonds and deposits, the banks earned in 15 years on their capital \$400,000,000—from which it is evident that if the National banks were compelled to do business like firms and individuals, solely on their own capital, they would be obliged to shut up shop. This is supposing that in the latter case their expenses continued upon the same scale as during the 15 years here under consideration, for the expenses of the National banks exceeded what the banks obtained for the use of their capital by \$234,000,000. The following statement shows what would have been the condition of the National banks if obliged to do business solely on their own capital, and how much they are indebted to the earnings of Labor and Enterprise for the net profits reaped by them up to October, '78:

National Bank expenses from 1863 to 1878	\$634,000,000
National Bank loss, had they traded only on their own capital	\$234,000,000
National Bank receipts from Government bonds up to '78	\$360,000,000
National Bank receipts from deposits up to '78	\$540,000,000
National Bank receipts from the earnings and profits of the people	\$900,000,000
Deduct difference between expenses and earnings on their own capital	\$234,000,000
Balance, net profits of National Banks up to October, '78, equal to an average yearly net profit of 11 per cent	\$666,000,000

I think it will be generally conceded that we are a very generous people and extremely patient under long suffering, to contribute, as we have done, \$900,000,000 out of our earnings and possessions, for the purpose of supporting and perpetuating a baneful power, that is fast arraying itself against those rights all freemen hold most precious, in order that an unscrupulous political party, that has long outlived its usefulness, may wield authority in defiance of the popular will, and once again inaugurate at Washington the reign of Belknap, Babcocks, and "Sylphs."

It does not alter the significance of the above exhibit that, had the banks done business solely on their own capital, their expenses would not have been so great as those here given—and hence their loss would have been proportionately less; for what immediately concerns us is, that of the \$1,300,000,000 of gross receipts, only \$400,000,000 were secured to the banks by means of their own capital, and that the remaining \$900,000,000 came to them as a free gift from the people. The inevitable deduction to be drawn from this condition of affairs is, that the success of the National Banking System, as now organized, depends upon the existence of an Interest-bearing National Debt, and the gratuitous use, at USURY, of other people's money.

It is a singular commentary on the proverbial shrewdness and good sense of the American mind that the people should gratuitously lend their own property to the banks for the purpose of enabling these to reap enormous profits, by charging the people for the use of their property. Here is an immense deposit, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars, belonging to the people who pay the banks for the use of a price which in 15 years equals the huge sum itself! If the enormous price the people pay for the use of their own property came back to them in some useful shape or form, there might be discovered some wisdom in a proceeding which bears all the marks of gross fatuity. The gravity of this crime against common sense is not lessened because those to whom the banks lend these deposits are not those to whom they immediately belong; the deposits, considered in their entirety, are the property of the community, and, as such, the community are alone entitled to the benefits derived therefrom; instead of that, the community pay to a banking association that have not a shadow of claim to it a large annual tax for the privilege of using their own property. Nor is this all: the money thus gratuitously paid by the community for the use of their own property goes towards a bribery and corruption fund to sustain a political faction who are pledged to support an extension of an association which depends for its existence on the collection of a tax

for the use of property to which it has no shadow of claim. Enough is known to prove beyond all reasonable doubt that the result of the Maine and Ohio elections was largely determined by the action of the National banks in direct opposition to the wishes and hopes of the nation. It is no secret that the National Banking Association is determined at all hazards to make Capital victorious over Labor, Enterprise, and Industry, in the success of the Republican party. The question then for the people to determine is, Are they willing to continue supporting and building up a powerful, unscrupulous association which taxes them for the privilege of using their own money, and then uses these ill-gotten gains to undermine, subvert, and finally destroy their liberties? Philadelphia. WM. HOWARD.

NATIONALITY OF THE GRANGE—A LINK IN THE CHAIN OF NATIONAL UNITY.

The inquiry is sometimes made, What advantage is gained by the Grange being national in its character? What does the National Grange do for the Patrons? The question might be answered by asking another: What is the use of a county or State organization? or, to carry out the argument, What is the use of any organization at all? for the argument, if logically carried out, resolve itself into this. The inquiry may be answered by referring to the Farmers' Clubs, which from time to time has sprung up, and as rapidly disappeared. The fact is, there was a want of extensive organization in the latter to give them any lease of life. The common Bond of Brotherhood was wanting, which the Grange supplies. Besides, the Farmer's Club, whatever its platform of purposes may be declared to be, necessarily sinks to the condition of an agricultural association, exclusively.

The Grange contemplates in its action to reach and satisfy all the wants of the agricultural class. Its power consists in co-operation. A unity of interests and common wants, enjoins this. The more extended the association, united by the same purposes, aims and wants, the greater the power to attain the objects sought. It is idle at this day to talk about accomplishing great objects without co-operation. It is the efficient factor in all great enterprises. Every other industry, every other department of trade, is aware of this efficiency, and guilds, trades-unions, and legalized corporations, are the result. The farmer from his isolated position and employment has not appreciated the advantage of associated effort. The world has taken for granted that the importance of agriculture, both for the maintenance of commerce and manufactures, gave a sufficient guarantee of its independence and growth—independent of Government patronage or other outside influences. The result was that legislation was strained to advance commercial and manufacturing interests, while agriculture was snubbed on every occasion. The whiskey interests in controlling the legislation of that great State than the entire agricultural interests of its people.

But the Grange is an organization which has for its object not only the thrift and growth and character of its members but in the securing of these to advance the interests of the Commonwealth. The result could not be otherwise, for that which shall benefit and elevate the largest class, or indeed any class, just that far contributes to the common weal and strength.

Limit these influences to a county and a decade of years will show that the country so situated will outstrip adjoining counties in population, intelligence, wealth and refinement. Certain causes must produce certain results, and these are among them. Extend these influences to the limits of a State and we have the same factors at work. It is like advance of civilization a few years ago on our western border—a steady progressive movement towards the Pacific, as clearly defined, year by year, as an army making its regular march. Under the genial influences of the Order of Patrons, there not only is but must be a progressive movement along the line of the whole body of farmers, who are in sympathy with the works. Unlike trades-unions and monopolies, the prosperity of the Grange, representing the agricultural class, is identified with the general prosperity.

We therefore conclude, that having for its object so far-reaching a purpose, its strong power lies in its State and National extent. Whatever adds to the National unity, adds to the strength and perpetuity of the Republic, and appeals not only to the self-interest, but to the patriotism of the citizen.—*Grange Bulletin.*